

**SUGAR GROVE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
TRUSTEE'S MEETING  
OPEN MINUTES**

**Date:** April 27, 2026  
**Time:** 5:00 pm  
**Place:** Sugar Grove Fire Station

**Board of Trustees:** David Blankenship– President  
Tim Cicero – Secretary  
Nicole Lamela – Treasurer  
Mike Fagel – Trustee  
Susan Cuomo - Trustee

**Guests:** Chief Moran, DC Weaver, Attorney, Paula Lacey, Lori Kellogg

**Call to Order at 5:00pm**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Budget and Appropriation Hearing** – The floor was open for the FY 2026-2027 Budget and Appropriation Hearing.

No comments were heard.

Motioned by Cicero Seconded by Lamela at 5:04 pm to close the Annual Budget and Appropriation Hearing  
Roll call vote – All in favor, Motion carried

**Roll Call** – Trustee Blankenship will be late

**Public to Address the Board** – Nothing heard

**Minutes – March 16, 2026 open** –

Motioned by Cicero Seconded by Lamela to Approve March 16, 2026, open minutes  
Second page of minutes – correct the spelling of Trustee Fagel  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

**March 16, 2026 closed** –

Motioned by Lamela Seconded by Fagel to Approve March 16, 2026, closed minutes and keep them closed  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

**Cash Balances vs Actual Reports – March 2026**

Motioned by Lamela Seconded by Cicero to Approve the Cash Balances and Budget vs Actual Reports for March 2026 - Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

**Expenditures – March 2026**

Motioned by Lamela Seconded by Cicero to Approve the Expenditures for March 2026  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion Carried

After the motion Fagel noticed the Expenditures were not in the packet – they were then handed out at the meeting.

**Sawyer Falduto** –

John Falduto went over the Investment Performance Report

**Trustees Report** –

- Trustee Fagel
  - 69 days without a DHS operation going on.
  - Brought up joint training with Police/Sheriff. Have on record that the Fire District wants joint training for the college and schools in the district.
  - Chief keeps asking and is being told no

- Chief:
  - Has constant communication with all agencies
  - Meeting with Waubensee this week on both the emergency operation and police side
  - Bigger picture is getting all the police agencies together - everyone trains at their own agencies

Discussion continued.

**Trustee Blankenship arrived at 5:31pm**

**Report of the Fire Chief –**

- Burn Tower - Pavement is complete – working on landscaping – repainting the interior
- Lauren Underwood put in two million for the fire training facility – not a done deal yet
- Fire last night – excellent job by crew
- FEMA still shut down – waiting on two grants to be released
- Recycling event first weekend of June – NO HAZMAT ITEMS
- Pork Chop Drive Thru Dinner – May 21 – 4-7p – partnering with Kawanis – District portion of proceeds with go to scholarship fund

**Deputy Chief Weaver –**

- Reporting system has gone to NRIS from NFIRS
- Reports have changed – right now most fields are not working
- Calls are down at about 60

**Report of the Fire Chief –**

- Open House June 12
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Burn Tower May 14
- Methodist Church Chaplin will do a blessing at the Burn Tower and he is interested in being our Chaplin

**Attorneys Report –**

**HB2490** - Firefighter Paid Family Leave Act. Provides 6 weeks of paid family leave that may be used for the birth of a child in order to care for the child; to care for a newly adopted child, newly placed foster child, under 18, or a newly adopted or placed foster child older than 18 if the child is incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability; and to care for a family member with a serious health condition. Employers shall compensate a firefighter granted leave under the Act at the firefighter's regular rate of pay.

Discussion held on the financial burden this will cause the district and taxpayers.

**HB5253** - Amends the Fire Protection District Act. Increases Trustee pay by \$500 annually.

**SB3517** - Amends the Illinois Insurance Code – Establishes rate of pay for nonparticipating ambulance providers, owned and operated by a local government, the rate shall be equal to the rate established by the governing body.

**Closed Session –**

It was motioned by Lamela Seconded by Fagel to go into closed session at 5:50pm, for items 14 a & b on the agenda. Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion Carried

**Open Session –** The Board came back into open session at 7:17pm

Trustee Cicero left the meeting at 6:36pm

Motioned by Lamela and seconded by Fagel to Approve the compensation for the non-union employees.  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion Carried

**Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 2026-02 –** Discussion held on the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance  
Motioned by Lamela Seconded by Fagel to approve Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 2026-02.  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

**Engagement Letter with Sikich LLP –** Standard letter that is approved every year – 1 year term  
Motioned by Lamela Seconded by Fagel to approve Engagement Letter with Sikich LLP.  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

**Surplus Equipment** – Foreign Fire bought a new cable machine – surplus the old ones  
Motioned by Fagel Seconded by Blankenship to approve the surplus equipment.  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

**Resignation of Fire Commissioner** – Ross Scimeca gave his resignation. He is moving out of the district. Ross has been a commissioner since 2007.  
Motioned by Blankenship Seconded by Cuomo to approve Resignation of Fire Commissioner.  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

**Appointment of Fire Commissioner** – Chief Moran stated that he would like to appoint Vanessa Wiskerchen as Fire Commissioner.  
Motioned by Lamela Seconded by Fagel to Approve Appointment of Vanessa Wiskerchen to Fire Commissioner.  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

**Transferring Funds from Operation to Capital** – Transfer \$600,000 from Operations to Capital.  
Motioned by Lamela Seconded by Fagel to Approve the Transfer of \$600,000 from Operations to Capital.  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

**Motion to Appoint Trustee Fagel as Secretary Pro-Tem -**  
Motioned by Blankenship Seconded by Lamela to Appoint Trustee Fagel as Secretary Pro-Tem.  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

**All Other Matters that May Come Before the Board** – Nothing heard

Motioned by Blankenship Seconded by Cuomo to adjourn the meeting at 7:22pm.  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

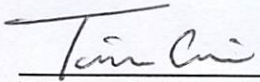
Negate the adjournment motion.

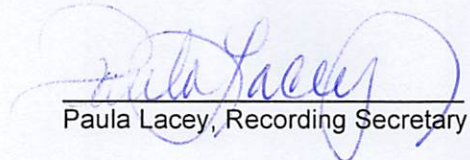
Motion by Blankenship Seconded by Lamela to leave all closed session minutes closed for the next 6-months.  
Roll call vote: All in favor, Motion carried

Motioned by Blankenship Seconded by Cuomo to adjourn the meeting at 7:24pm.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Timothy Cicero, Secretary

  
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Paula Lacey, Recording Secretary